

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application. Claims 1-9, 11, and 19-21 have been canceled. Please amend claims 10-18 as follows. Claims 22-35 have been added.

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1.-9. Canceled

10. (Currently Amended) An information carrier provided with machine-readable data constituting a computer program according to claim [9] 22.

11. (Canceled)

12. (Currently Amended) An apparatus according to claim [11] 23, further comprising a memory structure communicatively linked with said control structure for storing data which represent a directly preceding operating condition, wherein said control structure is further arranged for determining at least one property of said current condition by determining at least one property of said directly preceding operating condition.

13. (Currently Amended) An apparatus according to claim [11] 23, wherein said control structure is further arranged for determining operations to be performed manually for bringing said finishing assembly from said current condition into said

required operating condition and representing said operations to be performed with said representation means in humanly perceptible form.

14. (Original) An apparatus according to claim 13, wherein said control structure is further arranged for registering the current condition again after the performance of one of said operations to be performed and representing in humanly perceptible form at least one residual operation of said operations to be performed.

15. (Currently Amended) An apparatus according to claim [11] 23, further comprising an item sensor communicatively linked with said control structure, for registering loaded physical postal items, wherein said control structure is further arranged for determining physical postal item types associated with said required operating condition, registering loaded physical postal items, determining at least one type of said loaded physical postal items; and representing at least one type of physical postal items to be loaded.

16. (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to claim 15, wherein said control structure is further arranged for representing, by said representation means, a loading position for physical postal items of that type to be loaded.

17. (Original) An apparatus according to claim 15, wherein said control structure is further arranged for representing a property of physical postal items of said type to be loaded.

18. (Original) An apparatus according to claim 15, wherein said item sensor is arranged for registering an item property of said loaded physical postal items.

19. (Canceled)

20. (Canceled)

21. (Canceled)

22. (New) A computer program for bringing a mail production apparatus into a required operating condition prior to the production of a mail piece or a series of mail pieces, wherein sets of properties associated with respective operating conditions of said apparatus required prior to initiation of the production in the respective operating condition are stored in a memory, at least one of said sets including at least one required physical property of the apparatus changeable only by manual implementation by an operator, other than by electronic data entry, for placing the apparatus in an operating condition, the program comprising instructions for:

A. determining data regarding a selected operating condition prior to initiation of the production;

B. registering at least one current physical property of said apparatus, prior to initiation of the production;

C. determining a manual change still needed to be made to change said at least one current physical property into said at least one required physical property of said selected operating condition, prior to initiation of the production;

D. causing an indication that said manual change still needs to be made to be represented in humanly perceptible form, prior to initiation of the production;

E. preventing said production from being initiated until said manual change had been made; and thereafter

F. initiating said production after said manual change has been made.

23. (New) The program according to claim 22, wherein the at least one current physical property of step C comprises a plurality of current physical properties.

24. (New) The program according to claim 22, wherein the at least one current physical property of instruction B comprises a type of document needed to be present in a feeder station.

25. (New) The program according to claim 22, wherein the at least one current physical property of instruction B comprises a particular type of station needed to be present.

26. (New) The program according to claim 22, wherein the at least one current physical property of instruction B comprises the size of sheets to be printed.

27. (New) The program according to claim 22, wherein the at least one current physical property of instruction B comprises the position of a stop.

28. (New) The program according to claim 22, wherein the at least one current physical property of instruction B comprises the kind of envelopes that must be present in an envelope feeder station.

29. (New) A mail production apparatus for producing mail pieces, starting from physical postal items, comprising:

at least one finishing assembly for producing physical mail pieces;

a sensor for registering a current physical property of a current condition of said at least one finishing assembly;

representation means; and

a control structure communicatively linked with said finishing assembly, said sensor and said representation means, said control structure including a memory in which are stored sets of properties associated with respective operating conditions of at least one finishing assembly required prior to initiation of the production in the respective operating condition, at least one of said sets including at least one required physical property of the apparatus changeable only by manual implementation by an operation, other than by electronic data entry, for placing the at least one finishing assembly in an operating condition the control structure being provided with code for:

A. determining data regarding a selected operating condition prior to initiation of the production;

B. causing said sensor to register at lest one current physical property of said apparatus, prior to initiation of the production;

C. determining a manual change still needed to be made to change said at least one current physical property into said at least one required physical property of said selected operating condition, prior to initiation of the production;

D. causing said representation means to represent an indication that said manual change still needs to be made to be represented in humanly perceptible form, prior to initiation of the production;

E. preventing said production from being initiated until said manual change has been made; and thereafter

F. initiating said production after said manual change has been made.

30. (New) The apparatus according to claim 29, wherein the at least one current physical property of paragraph C comprises a plurality of current physical properties.

31. (New) The apparatus according to claim 29, wherein the at least one current physical property of paragraph B comprises a type of document t needed to be present in a feeder station.

32. (New) The apparatus according to claim 29, wherein the at least one current physical property of paragraph B comprises a particular type of station needed to be present.

33. (New) The apparatus according to claim 29, wherein the at least one current physical property of paragraph B comprises the size of sheets to be printed.

34. (New) The apparatus according to claim 29, wherein the at least one current physical property of paragraph B comprises the position of a stop.

35. (New) The apparatus according to claim 29, wherein the at least one current physical property of paragraph B comprises the kind of envelopes that must be present in an envelope feeder station.